40 1957

EXPERTS DISPUTE WHITE SUPREMACY

Times P. 75-1

18 Psychologists Challenge Theory That Negroes Are Inferior by Nature

Sent. 1-20-57

ITHACA, N. Y., Jan. 19 (AP)—Some of the nation's top psychologists think the South's cherished belief in natural white supremacy is unscientific fallacy.

They believe racial prejudice is developed, not ingrained in man's nature.

They do not believe desegregation will contribute to "mongrelization" of the races. They suspect segregation has.

The do not believe anyone can prove conclusively that Negroes as a group are less intelligent than whites.

Social psychologists joined the public debate over segregation when one of their colleagues, Dr. Frank C. J. McGurk, Associate professor of Psychology at Villanova University, stated flatly that as measured by psychological test performance, Negroes as a group did not possess so much capacity for education as did whites.

Views Based On Tests

The Villanova psychologist, who once taught at West Point, said his views were based on tests administered during World War I and since.

Dr. McGurk also said, "there is ample evidence that there are psychological differences between whites and Negroes. * * * These differences are not the result of differences in social and economic opportunities and they will not disappear as the social and economic opportunities of Negroes and whites are equalized."

Further, Dr. McGurk maintained, "as far as psychological test performance is a measure of capacity for education, Negroes as a group do not possess as much of it as whites as a group."

Eighteen social scientists, most of them members of the American Psychological Association, differed with these views.

In a formal statement the eighteen asserted:

"The available scientific evidence indicates that much, perhaps all, of the observable differences among various racial and national groups may be explained in terms of environmental differences. * * *

"It seems clear, therefore, that fears based on the assumption of innate racial differences are not well founded."

This statement is similar to the one submitted by thirty social scientists to the United States Supreme Court prior to the decision of May 17, 1954, that held public school segregation unconstitutional.

Much Data on Subject

The comparative intelligence of whites and Negroes has concerned social scientists since 1897. As a result, there is an enormous mass of material on the subject.

Dr. Robert D. North, a native of Pascagoula, Miss., and now assistant director of the Educational Records Bureau in New York City, has just completed an exhaustive study of much of this material.

Dr. North, former psychologist at Columbia and Long Island Universities, concluded:

"If the nation's school systems were segregated on the basis of ability to learn, color lines would be crossed in a way that would bewilder advocates of the theory of white mental supremacy.

"There is no scientific evidence that inherent intelligence is higher or lower in any group of people who can be separated from another by anthropological distinctions."

There is general agreement on the subject of intelligence between Dr. North and Prof. Otto Klineberg, psychologist at Columbia University.

Intermarriage Feared

Aside from arguing that Negroes are inferior to whites, some Southerners express fears that desegregation, especially in the public schools, will lead to intermarriage and eventually to a "mongrelized" race.

On this subject Dr. Klineberg said:

"If we regard our own group as biologically superior, we shall probably consider any mixture with an 'inferior' group as equivalent to mongrelization or degeneration. Our survey of the material pertinent to the question * * * has indicated the lack of evidence for the innate superiority of any one group over another * * *.

"From the sociological point of view, however, the problem is a more serious one. If there is general objection to miscegenation [race mixing] the effect upon the individual may be unfortunate * * * it is clearly the attitude toward hybrids [the offspring of interracial relationships], not their biological make-up, which determines their place in the community."

One of the leading authorities on intergroup relations is Prof. Robin M. Williams of Cornell University. He is a native of Hillsboro, N. C., and a graduate of North Carolina State College.

Research in Field

Mr. Williams and a team of researchers have been doing field work since 1947 on the relations between various groups, divided on the basis of race, culture and religion.

Their studies, unpublished because of a lack of funds, have been conducted in Elmira, N. Y., Steubenville, Ohio; Bakersfield, Calif., Savannah, Ga., and several other cities.

As a Southerner, Mr. Williams has a deep understanding of the Southerner's problems. He was asked how long he thought the region could maintain its current attitude against any change in the racial patterns.

"Right now," he replied, "There is a total crisis psychology in the South and a great deal of latent good will is immobilized. How long can it be maintained? The South has shown a capacity to sustain hostility over a long time, but over a generation? I doubt it. My best guess is that eventually a lot of white Southerners are going to say 'Let's stop beating our heads against a stone wall'."

Zulu Makes 'Royal' Vow For Parade

Advertiser P. 5-A
Mar. 2-24-57
Montgomery, Ala.

By KEITH KATHAN
United Press Staff Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 23 (UP)—A teetotaling King Zulu vowed today he will "glitter like the sun" instead of "passing out like a light" when he leads the usually riotous Zulu parade here on Mardi Gras day.

However even if King Zulu does glitter like old Sol, the all-Negro parade on March 5 probably won't shine like it did in the old days when a bottle-waving king lounged atop a float, tossing coconuts and whistling at the girls.

Local Negro civic groups want to "tone" down the Zulu parade and add a bit of "dignity."

TOO MUCH ALCOHOL

One of their targets is the usually heavy amount of stimulant consumed by the king and his court during the long parade.

United Clubs, Inc., one of the civic groups, says the "wild Zulu parades of old portrayed the Negro in the wrong way."

"Why should today's Negro be shown as a member of a frenzied African clan?" the group asked. "How can we keep up our fight for equal rights if we don't conduct ourselves on a sane level?"

However, the parade committee chairman of the sponsoring Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club denied that the parade will be milder.

Chairman Alex Raphael said "no organization can take the fun out of the Zulu Parade. None."

Last year's king was a whisky wholesaler who said, "We'll toast the Old Crow tribe all the way."

WATER FOR KING

This year's king William Boykin 50, is a teetotaler.

"When we stop to toast during the parade, they'll offer me champagne. I'll take a teeny sip, but all the rest'll be water," he said.

"We'll have a nice parade. We'll pass the coconuts instead of throwing them."

Mardi Gras festivities begin Sunday afternoon when three private clubs called "kewes" parade on spacious Canal Street with blaring horns.

Then parades follow parades every day, with the Toth, Mid-City and Venus parades on Sunday. March 3, up to March 5 with the Zulu parade and the daddy of them all, the Rex parade featuring the king of the Mardi Gras

Would D.N.A. Solve The Race Problem?

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 6-22-57

Drug found to change color of human skin?

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (NNPA)—Talk of serum which was said to be capable of turning black skins white and white skins black caused an uproar in the South African House of

Would D.N.A. solve the race problem?

For those who cannot wait, D.N.A. means desoxy-ribonucleic acid, a substance found in every living cell. South Africans were mortified when they learned that a serum derived from D.N.A. can turn BLACK SKINS WHITE and white skins black — whichever way you want it.

This could mean there will be no dark people left in the world — and who would be the whipping boys of demagogues?

In South Africa, where white men will kill to maintain color separation (but where mulattoes abound), the announcement that a French scientist, Jacques Benoit, had developed a serum capable of turning black people into white threw the House of Assembly into an uproar during a discussion of native affairs in that august body.

Asked one courageous United Party member: "But where would South Africa stand if the serum was smuggled into the country? If non-Europeans injected themselves with it, how could the Government apply its policy of apartheid (racial segregation)?"

South Africans are SURE they can identify two million white persons in their enlightened land and they are reasonably sure these same two million can identify nine million Bantus because they are black. But if nine million blacks suddenly turned white, South Africans would not know who to kick around. They might be kicking themselves.

Africans appear to be proud of their God-given color, prouder than many American Negroes who, in many ways, reveal that they hate their color. What would America's arch foes of integration do if the Negroes in this country all turned white? Herman Talmadge, James O. Eastland, James M. Byrnes, the White Citizens Councils, the Ku Klux Klan and many "civic" groups dedicated to white supremacy would really have to work to discover another political football. Anyone for D.N.A.

As matters stand in America today, hundreds of thousands of people with white skins are termed Negroes, and they do not deny it. With D.N.A., "skin whiteners"

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Dr. Jenkins to answer Dr. McGurk

Afro-American
Baltimore Md.
Sat. 3-23-57

BALTIMORE

Dr. F. C. J. McGurk was at Johns Hopkins University this week discussing his thesis that colored children do not have the same capacity for learning as white children.

Dr. McGurk's findings first appeared in the anti - colored News and World Report. He is an associate professor at Vilanova, Pa. University.

Dr. McGurk admitted in Philadelphia that every scientific journal to which he submitted his finds, over a 4 - year period, declined to publish it.

DR. McGURK said: "This survey was conducted in 1951 and was turned down by every scientific journal to which I sent it."

He said his article was printed in the News and World Report because no scientific magazine would take it.

Villanova is a Catholic institution.

After reading Dr. McGurk's paper, a group of social scientists, consultants to the Catholic Interracial Council of Chicago declared:

"Dr. McGurk has taken the facts out of context, ignored the cautions of the researchers who made the studies that he quotes, and arrived at conclusions entirely unwarranted by the data he has used.

"He has misused the work of reputable scholars."

DR. MARTIN JENKINS, president of Morgan State College, will speak before the Hopkins seminar on the same question next week.

When the McGurk article was first published, Dr. Jenkins said, "We have been unable to find a single publication by Dr. McGurk in scientific magazines. It would appear that this is the work of an obscure scientist."

In Philadelphia, five reputable social scientists immediately took issue with Dr. McGurk.

One of them, Rev. Richard M. Plunkett, OSA said, "It may be that one race is inferior to another in capacity for education. If it is true, we do not know it."

An editorial in the Boston Herald put this climax on the controversy: "What Dr. McGurk is measuring has nothing to do with the race at all. The basic fault is not with the mentality of colored people, but with the attitudes of white people."

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
Sun. 4-2-57
P. 1-B

BIG FEET ARE A BIG HEADACHE TO ORAN BROWN
Oran Sits Behind His New Shoes And By His Dad

WEARS A SIZE 18 1-2 EEE

No More Shoe Problems For Abbeville's Oran Brown

By VIRGINIA DAVIS
Advertiser Staff Writer

ABBEVILLE, Ala., June 1—"I reckon I've worn my last pair of shoes," the big Negro muttered.

Tears filled his eyes as he looked at the Abbeville merchant in the dry goods store, and he turned to mosey on out—back to the hoe and the beige clay and sandy dirt his big bare feet were accustomed to squashing through.

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"WAIT. THERE OUGHT to be some way you could get those shoes," the merchant was saying. "Luizzi is offering them to you at wholesale. If you had to buy them at retail, they'd cost you $85."

"Ain't no use talking about it, Mr. Nordan. I can't raise $60 no better than $85. I just can't get the shoes," Oran Brown said slowly.

"Tell you what you do, Oran. You go to the welfare office. Explain it to them," W. M. Nordan suggested.

Oran walked out. The merchant watched his pitiful figure, a great, tall 42-year-old man with feet so big he had them tied in bandages, a woman's cotton stocking pulled over them and a piece of automobile tire held on with hay-wire. He limped and used a short crutch.

The merchant had noticed the peculiar-looking "shoes" and thought something was wrong with the Negro's feet and asked him about them.

Nordan had gone to considerable effort to find somebody who could make Oran a pair of shoes, and at last he had found Paul Luizzi, young shoemaker at Brockton, Mass. Luizzi had heard all about Oran through Nordan and offered to make the shoes for $60.

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THE WELFARE OFFICE gave Oran no hope for aid, he reported when he saw Nordan again, and the merchant had another suggestion:

"Why don't you carry around a petition to some of the business men and ask them to help you get a pair of shoes"

Oran shook his head.

"I can't do that," the shy Negro answered. Finally, he was persuaded, and the Abbeville people put in $40. He raised the rest at church from sympathetic friends.

Nordan took complete measurements of Oran's feet, and Luizzi began to construct a wooden foot from the measurements sent to him. Boston newspapers reported he was making the largest pair of shoes of his career, next in size to the world's largest pair made for a circus giant.

Luizzi used a whole 12-foot skin of calf and the center of the bend. Special bunion pockets were constructed in the shoes, and when finished the shoes were 16¼ inches long and seven inches wide.

Their size: 18½ EEEE.

The shoes will last Oran about a year. He's had them a month or two, and keeps the brown calfskin carefully polished. Shoes for Oran have always been hard to come by.

Big feet have been a lifelong frustration to him, particularly the years after his feet grew past the 16 size that some shoe companies offered as their largest merchandise.

Oran's big feet troubles were related by his 78-year-old father, Curtis Brown, whose height has never exceeded 5 feet, 8 inches and whose late wife "was a little better than four feet tall." She birthed 11 children, nine to adulthood. Oran stands 6 feet, 7 inches and has weighed 287 pounds. Another son in New York is a heavy man of 267 pounds. but Oran's gangliness has been a source of handicaps ever since he was three years old.

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"SEE THEM TWO China trees I planted when he was a little thing," Curtis pointed out in the yard. "When he was big enough to play, he was so big, he just walked and passed the rest. One day he jumped up on a table I had under that far tree to reach a limb. One of the table legs gave way. He fell and dislocated his leg, and to this day he has been crippled. His knee has been out of plump. I have made him a crutch each time he would outgrow one, but the trouble that boy has had with his shoes . . ." The old man shook his head back and forth.

"I have been from Jacksonville (Fla.) to New York trying to get shoes on his feet. I don't know why he is so big, but my wife told me that she heard about some folks back in her race who grew unusually large. Now I call myself a Bible scholar, and I do believe that Oran's size is the carrying out of the Scripture, where it says that negligence will follow down to the third and to the fourth generation.

"My father was a superannuated deacon. My wife was a sanctified missionary, and I can preach till the preacher gets there. We were all respected people. But, Lord, a good man needs a good woman. There ain't nothing this world needs more than a good woman. When my wife died, I died."

The old man and Oran and Oran's wife live in a large unpainted board house on 16½ acres. Everything is neatly kept around the house. "A place for everything, and everything in its place," Curtis pointed out. He said Oran has lived "with my help." Both of them work as day laborers "from sunup to sundown" for $3 a day when they can get it. On this day, all three had jobs chopping cotton on a nearby farm.

"Oran is a hoe man. That's the only work he can hold," Curtis said. "His feet are so big they are in his way. He can't walk behind a plow stock, because he can't take a straight step."

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NEXT TO HIS wife's death, Curtis' most terrible loss occurred two weeks ago when his one milk cow died. Up to this year the family raised its own meat, and there's no mule to plow the small farm to raise the cotton, peanuts, corn and peas that used to grow there. Curtis draws social security payments, and the day work the three get in the fields takes care of them. Good neighbors have been furnishing them with milk, since the cow died.

A size 12 shoe is usually the biggest a shoe store will carry, but Oran's shoes were ordered from Sears Roebuck at Atlanta as long as he could get into a size 16. That was nearly 20 years ago.

One day Curtis rode into Abbeville with a drummer from Cap Station and related his boy's handicap with shoes. The drummer handed him a big picture of a shoe on a post card with a shoe company's name. Curtis made the contact and Oran was able to buy shoes to fit. The last pattern cost him $10. Then the Walkover company began making his shoes for $27.30 a pair, but the plant burned and the wooden form that served as a pattern was destroyed. Until Luizzi came into the picture, Oran had gone barefoot, worn bandages and used an old pair of homemade sandals fashioned for him.

The ill care from which his feet have suffered nearly put an end to them last September. He got dew poisoning while picking cotton, and it was feared he was going to lose them for long afterward.

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ORAN SAYS THE only blot on his career is what he believes went down on his record with the state vocational rehabilitation service. The Negro was given training to fire a boiler and to press clothes. He was helped to obtain a job at Newville with a cleaning business.

"I was getting along fine with the work and liked it, but I had to work on a concrete floor." The callouses on his feet from ill-fitted shoes, old tires and going barefoot so much didn't take to the hard surface. Oran asked to be let off for a while but was refused.

He quit the job.

He says his employer reported to the state agency that he wouldn't work, which Oran doesn't believe is an accurate report But it put an end to efforts to help him in any form of vocational rehabilitation.

Like the nose of Cyrano de Bergerac, Oran Brown's big feet trouble him wherever he goes.

Chicago Chemist Named To Board Of Engineers

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Dr. Lloyd A. Hall, technical director of the Griffin Laboratories here, was among five outstanding chemists and chemical engineers who were appointed to the advisory board of the Chemical and Engineering News a weekly publication of the American Chemical Society last week.

The noted chemist will serve on the 15-member board for three years. The advisory board meets several times a year to consult and advise the editors of the publication.

Dr. Hall's extensive research includes studies on meat products, oils and flavors.

He is a native of Elgin, Ill., and holds the B. S. degree and the Ph. D. degree from Northwestern University. Dr. Hall has been associated with the Columbus Laboratories here and in 1919 joined the John Morrell and Company in the Ottumwa, Iowa, as chief chemist.